

New Reciprocal Agreement on Kentucky Lake between Tennessee and Kentucky

On September 1, 2003, a new reciprocal agreement for sport fishing on Kentucky Lake will go into effect. The reciprocal area or zone includes the waters of Kentucky Lake south of the Eggners Ferry Bridge (US Highway 68 & Highway 80) in Kentucky and north of the Governor Ned McWherter Bridge (US Highway 79 & Highway 76) in Tennessee. This zone includes all embayments and tributaries within this portion of Kentucky Lake except the Blood River embayment. Blood River embayment shall be defined as a straight line between opposite points where the embayment connects to the main body of Kentucky Lake. The reciprocal agreement does not apply to any other portion of Kentucky Lake.

Each state will recognize the sport fishing licenses of the other state but each sport fishing license holder must abide by the regulations of the state in whose waters they are fishing. The current sport fishing regulations for Kentucky and Tennessee are almost the same; the two exceptions are that the daily creel limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass is 5 in Tennessee and 6 in Kentucky and there is a 34 inch maximum size limit on catfish (daily creel limit of 1 per person per day over 34 inches) in Tennessee.